

LET'S SHARE IT!



Fayette County Board of
Developmental Disabilities

We offer quality programs and coordinate available services so that people we serve may realize their dreams and actively contribute to their community.

June, 2017

Marilyn Weidman, Editor

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Superintendent's Message

Welcome to our June newsletter. This edition celebrates all ages, from our youngest receiving early intervention services, to youth transitioning into young adults and then finally to our "Give Back Crew" made up of adults simply saying thank you. We cover it all!

Although summer is upon us and the little ones are on their much-deserved break, we are still preparing the Starting Gate building to be ready for the start of pre-school in August. Rooms are being cleaned, supplies are being purchased, bus routes are being designed and lesson plans finalized. There is anticipation in the air, yes, we miss them already!

Appreciation is also an important theme in this newsletter, read about our "Give Back Crew", our Book Club members and the FACT group who take care of a portion of the Tri-County Triangle Trail, we aspire to be active and responsible members of our community.

Thank you to our staff, and to our volunteers who assist us in these endeavors. We couldn't do it without you.

Enjoy!

Deb Buccilla

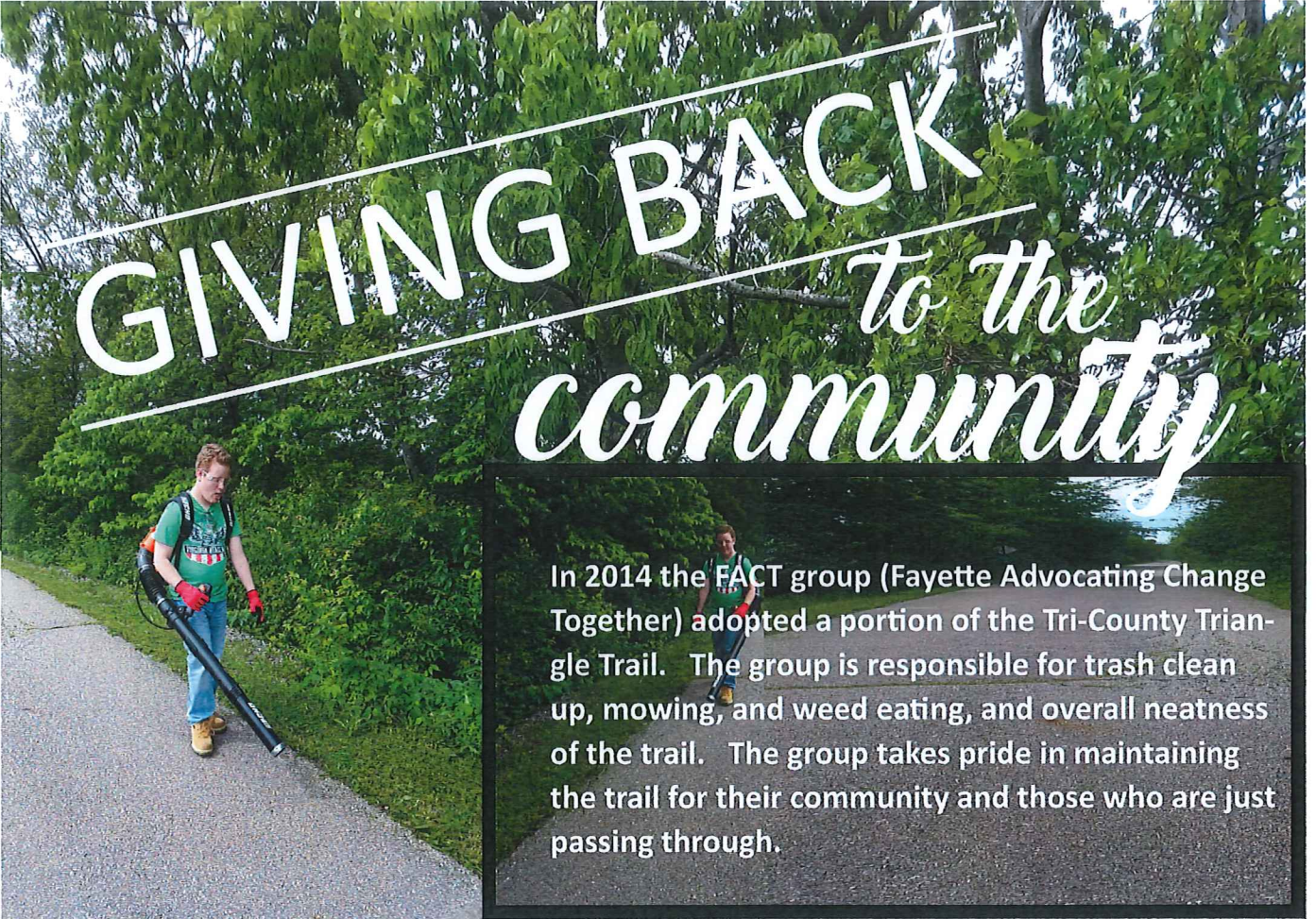


NEXT CHAPTER BOOK CLUB

The Next Chapter Book Club continues to meet once a week at the Carnegie Public Library. The group has grown from five members and two facilitators to five facilitators with five members. We are planning on starting a second book club in the near future. To volunteer, please contact Tim Stewart, Community First Coordinator at 740-335-7453.



GIVING BACK *To the community*



In 2014 the FACT group (Fayette Advocating Change Together) adopted a portion of the Tri-County Triangle Trail. The group is responsible for trash clean up, mowing, and weed eating, and overall neatness of the trail. The group takes pride in maintaining the trail for their community and those who are just passing through.

The Community First Division along with two advocates delivered a basket of cookies to the Fayette County Fire Dept. to show their appreciation for all that they do for our community. Lt. Tim Downing, Captain of the FD graciously accepted the basket and gave a tour of the building. The Community First Division and their "Give Back Crew" will be out and about in the community every week showing their appreciation. Keep watch. Your business or organization might be next!



SCHOOL to WORK TRANSITION



On May 12, 2017, an appreciation breakfast was held at the Rose Avenue Community Center to celebrate Mrs. Hart and Mrs. Milstead's Work Study classes from Miami Trace High School.

The students began their work experience in September of 2016 and continued to go weekly until the end of the school year. Miami Trace High School and the Fayette County Board

of DD partnered to create work opportunities and provide transportation to work sites for the students.

The students worked at the Rose Avenue Community Center tagging and sorting clothes, preparing meals for the evening after-school program, and janitorial work. The students also had the opportunity to work in the food pantry working with community members boxing and sorting food for those in need within our community.

At Grace United Methodist Church the students prepared back packs of food for the youth of Fayette County. These backpacks went home on Fridays to help get the youth through the weekend.



The breakfast was enjoyed by all and a certificate was presented to each student who participated in the training. The students learned self-direction, team work, life skills, the importance of volunteering, and they learned how to be contributing citizens within their community.

Those in attendance from Fayette County Board of DD were as follows: Tim Stewart, Community First Coordinator; Lori Moore, Business Director; and Matt Bryant, Transportation. From Miami Trace Schools: Superintendent Dave Lewis; Asst. Superintendent Kim Pittser; Miami Trace High School Principal Rob Enochs; Classroom Aides, Candice Bagheri, Mel Burke, and Dawn Dawson. Greg Fessler, Director of the Rose Avenue Community Center was also present.

Special thanks to Mrs. Milstead and Jody Truex for catering the breakfast.

EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES



“Children learn as they play. Most importantly, in play children learn how to learn.”

O. Fred Donaldson

A child’s brain undergoes an amazing period of development from birth to 3-years-old, producing 700 new neural connections a second. The National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families states that 90 percent of brain development happens before a child reaches age 5.

Relationships, environment and experiences are the key elements that we keep in mind as early intervention continues to evolve at the Starting Gate. Each child in our program has access to a full team of therapists and developmental specialists and a primary service provider that works with the family and the child in daily routines. Our center-based groups continue to promote social opportunities in what we call positive peer culture making learning interactive and fun.

Adding to this interaction and fun, we now have a therapist certified in the P.L.A.Y. Project. We embrace these thoughts, “By doing what your child loves, your child loves being with you.” Dr. Solomon dedicated his private practice and 20 years of research to The PLAY Project and autism (now diagnosed in one of 68 children), intervention that is based on how children learn best. Parents, caregivers and their PLAY Project consultant partner together



to create an individualized plan for the child. Family involvement is critical. Through observation, modeling, video review and coaching, families then work directly with their child to connect together and enhance development.

For more information about Fayette County Board of DD and the Early Intervention services, please contact Suzie Janasov, Early Childhood Director at 740-335-1391

The Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities Early Intervention program is growing and changing. A shift in federal and state philosophy, following the coaching model of evidence-based research encourages professional support of children and families in their natural environments.

Conscious Discipline



During the school year as part of the Conscious Discipline training, the staff wore aprons with pictures on them. These were their greetings! Students had an opportunity to choose how they would like to be greeted each day. Some examples were a butterfly hug, pinky hug, fist bump, and so on! The purpose of the greeting was to allow students to feel welcomed into school, and create connection with the staff as the greetings involved touch. This would make a great morning routine at home also!"



2017 End of School Year Fun



See you in August!

FAYETTE PROGRESSIVE SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

This has been such an enjoyable year. As bus drivers, we have the awesome task of transporting the pre-school and early intervention students to and from the Starting Gate. We take our responsibility very seriously as their safety is our utmost priority. Their smiles and laughter bless us each day.

Throughout the year, we get to know our little passengers on a personal basis. We watch them grow and flourish in their personalities and characteristics that make them who they are. Each one is unique in their own way, have boundless energy, and flowing conversations. They light up our hearts as they approach the buses smiling from ear to ear, anxious to get on and ride to and from school. How could there be a more rewarding job?



This year we decided to do something special for the all-day class. You see, we not only transport the students, but we also cook for the all-day class. This class is rather dear to our hearts. We have seen tremendous growth in these children over the last several years and we will truly miss them as they move on to Kindergarten. For Easter, the bus drivers planned and executed an Easter egg hunt especially for the all-day class. This not only included an egg hunt, but they also had to find the special egg with their name on it. Everyone received a prize at the end of the hunt. We anticipate doing this each year with the graduating class as we had so much fun along with the children.

As the school year has come to a close, we were sad on that last drop off, but we also anticipate the thought of a coming new year; a year filled with excitement and new adventures.

For more information about transportation, please contact Sandy Kelley, Operations Manager at 740-335-1391.

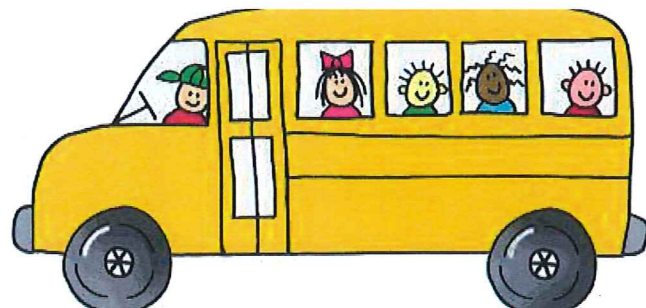
Bus Drivers,

Sue Kunie

Kelly Campbell

Matt Bryant

Alice Berryman



SAFE POOL PARTY

WHEN: THURSDAY, JULY 13th

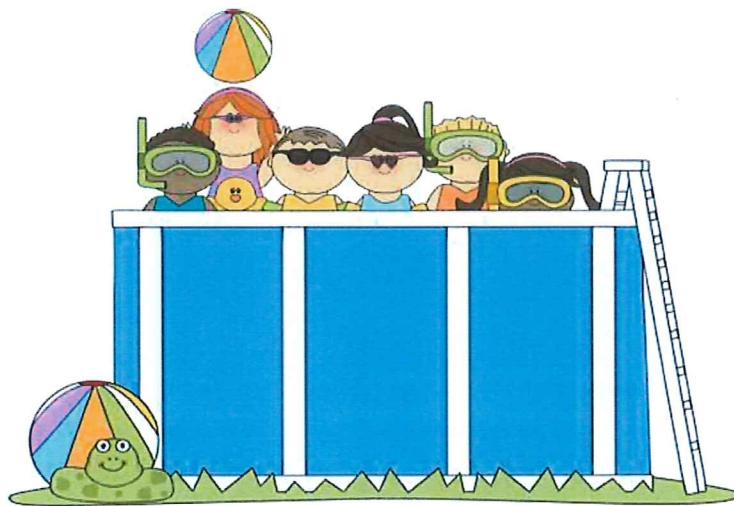
WHAT TIME: 8pm -10 pm

WHERE: JEFFERSONVILLE POOL

COST: FREE!!!

WHAT TO BRING: Your ENTIRE FAMILY and a snack to share with the group

RSVP: Cheryl Binegar at (740) 335-7453



S.A.F.E. IS A NON-PROFIT SUPPORT GROUP FOR FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES. WE OFFER BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH CHILDCARE PROVIDED, FAMILY ACTIVITY DAYS AND ONLINE SUPPORT.

Superintendent Deb Buccilla Receives Award

The Fayette and Highland County Board(s) of Developmental Disabilities are pleased to congratulate Superintendent Deb Buccilla in receiving the Ron Kozlowski Advocacy Award from Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc. (APSI) of Ohio. The prestigious award was given to Supt. Buccilla at an awards program on June 8 in Columbus.

In 2010, the APSI Board of Trustees created the Ron Kozlowski Advocacy Award in recognition of the agency's former Executive Director and his lifetime advocacy efforts on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities. The award is given annually to a person or entity outside of APSI who has demonstrated a lifetime in advocacy for individuals with developmental disabilities and has a long-term connection with advocacy efforts within the DD service system.

Supt. Buccilla has been a tireless advocate in many capacities, from residential settings to serving on a County Board of DD, to becoming a strong advocate as a Superintendent for Fayette and Highland Counties. She is constantly seeking new opportunities for children and adults with disabilities in the community and has given support to the local advocacy groups, as well as the Ohio Self Determination Association, People First of Ohio, and the Developmental Disabilities Council, which earlier this year presented Superintendent Buccilla with the Self-Advocacy Hero Award.



Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Website: www.fayettetdd.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fayettecountydd>

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Mission: We offer quality programs and coordinate available services so that people we serve may realize their dreams and actively contribute to their community.

Vision: To empower people to be the best version of themselves.

Values: Teamwork, Dedication, Respect, Integrity.

To request our email newsletter, please contact Marilyn Weidman at mweidman@fayettetdd.com

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